THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene oil are distributed through Fair Price Shops against Ration Cards, Some States also distribute additional non-PDS items of mass consumption such as exercise books, pulses, iodised salt, tea etc. through the FPSs.

(b) to (d) This subject is presently under consideration of the Government.

Shortage of palm oil

4025. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of palm oil in the country; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ensure its adequate supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Selling of expired imported stuffs

†4026. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE :
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS :
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that 90 per cent of the stuffs like chocolates, biscuits, wafers, chips etc. imported from foreign countries are being sold after lapse of their expiry period and due to this the health of the consumers is being adversely affected ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to check this practice ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.